



GAIL FARBER, Director

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331

<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

May 06, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

66 May 6, 2014

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**ADOPT, ADVERTISE, AND AWARD  
DOMINGUEZ GAP BARRIER PROJECT  
TELEMETRY SYSTEM – PHASE I  
IN THE CITIES OF LOS ANGELES AND CARSON  
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 2 AND 4)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

This action is to approve and advertise Dominguez Gap Barrier Project, Telemetry System – Phase I, in the Cities of Los Angeles and Carson; find the project categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act; adopt the plans and specifications; authorize the Chief Engineer or her designee to award and execute a construction contract with the apparent responsible contractor with the lowest responsive bid; deliver the project; and delegate certain responsibilities to the Chief Engineer or her designee to carry out this project.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:**

1. Find that this project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. Approve and advertise the project and adopt the plans and specifications that are on file in the Construction Division of the Department of Public Works for Dominguez Gap Barrier Project, Telemetry System – Phase I, at an estimated construction contract cost between \$1,600,000 and \$2,100,000.

BIDS: June 3, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

3. Instruct the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors to advertise for bids in accordance with the Instruction Sheet for Publishing Legal Advertisement, and which are to be received before 11 a.m. on June 3, 2014, in accordance with the Notice Inviting Bids.
4. Authorize the Chief Engineer or her designee to determine whether the bid of the apparent responsible contractor with the lowest apparent responsive bid is, in fact, responsive and, if not responsive, to determine which apparent responsible contractor submitted the lowest responsive bid.
5. Authorize the Chief Engineer or her designee to award and execute a construction contract with the apparent responsible contractor with the lowest responsive bid within the estimated cost range and deliver the project.
6. Delegate to the Chief Engineer or her designee the following authority in connection with this contract: (1) approve and execute change orders within the same monetary limits delegated to the Director or Public Works under Section 2.18.050 of the Los Angeles County Code relative to the construction of County buildings; (2) allow substitution of subcontractors and relief of bidders upon demonstration of the grounds set forth in Public Contract Code Sections 4100 et seq. and 5100 et seq., respectively; (3) accept the project upon its final completion; (4) release retention money withheld consistent with the requirements of Public Contract Code Sections 7107 and 9203; and (5) extend the date and time for the receipt of bids consistent with the requirements of Public Contract Code Section 4104.5.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The purpose of the recommended actions is for the Board, acting as the governing body of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD), to approve and advertise the project; adopt the plans and specifications; authorize the Chief Engineer or her designee to award and execute a construction contract with the apparent responsible contractor with the lowest responsive bid; deliver the project; and delegate certain responsibilities to the Chief Engineer or her designee to carry out this project.

#### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) and Integrated Services Delivery (Goal 3). The recommended actions will help achieve these goals by providing facilities to transmit information about groundwater conditions thereby improving the operation of this seawater barrier.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

The estimated construction contract cost to complete this project is in the range of \$1,600,000 to \$2,100,000. The total project cost is estimated to be \$3,225,000. In addition to the construction contract cost, the total project cost includes environmental clearance, plans and specifications, survey, right-of-way and utility clearance, material testing, inspection, contract administration, and other County services. Funding for this project is included in the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Flood Control District Budget.

#### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

This project will allow Public Works to maintain existing systems that prevent seawater contamination of groundwater basins by injecting fresh water to form a barrier against seawater intrusion into the basins. Once installed, the telemetry system will collect more accurate and timely injection rate and groundwater level information, transmit the data directly to Public Works, and allow engineers to monitor in real time how changes in injection rates impact groundwater levels. The project will result in a more efficient operation of the Dominguez Gap Barrier to help prevent seawater intrusion into the groundwater basin. This project will be advertised in accordance with Section 20991 of the State Public Contract Code.

This project is to be completed in 170 working days. It is estimated the work will start in August 2014 and be completed in April 2015.

Delegating to the Chief Engineer or her designee the authority to award and execute this construction contract allows an expedited contracting process to obtain a contractor for constructing Phase I of this telemetry system.

The award of the contract will not result in unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and will be in full compliance with Federal, State, and County regulations. The project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to comply with terms and conditions supporting the Board's ordinances, policies, and programs including, but not limited to: the County's Greater Avenues for Independence and General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs (GAIN and GROW), Board Policy No. 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers, Board Policy No. 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations, Board Policy No. 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law), Board Policy No. 5.135; Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015); Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202; the Los Angeles County's Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.200; the Los Angeles County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program Ordinance, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206; and the standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination or renegotiation.

The State Public Contract Code requires the LACFCD to award construction contracts to a responsible contractor with the lowest responsive bid, which is defined as the firm that: (1) submits the bid with the lowest cost; (2) is deemed by the LACFCD to be responsive to specific criteria under the solicitation including, but not limited to, licensure, bonding, and insurance requirements; and (3) is determined by the LACFCD to be a responsible bidder by exhibiting the capability, capacity, experience, trustworthiness, and financial wherewithal to perform the work required under the bid solicitation.

To ensure that the contract is awarded to a responsible contractor with a satisfactory history of performance, bidders are required to report violations of the False Claims Act, criminal convictions, civil litigation, defaulted contracts with County, complaints filed with the Contractor's State License Board, labor law/payroll violations, and debarment actions. As provided for in Board Policy No. 5.140, the information reported by the contractor will be considered before making a recommendation to award.

The plans and specifications include the contractual provisions, methods, and material requirements necessary for this project and are on file with Public Works.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

This project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301(b) of the CEQA guidelines and Class 1, Subsection (e) of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by the Board on November 17, 1987. The exemption provides for the maintenance of existing facilities involving no expansion of capacity.

## **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

This project will be contracted on an open-competitive bid basis. A recommendation for award by the Chief Engineer or her designee will be made upon review of the bids meeting the criteria established by the Board and the State Public Contract Code.

To increase contractor awareness of Public Works' program to contract work out to the private sector, this project will be listed on the County's website for upcoming bids.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

When the project is completed, it will have a positive impact by providing facilities to transmit information about groundwater conditions directly to Public Works for continuous monitoring thereby improving the operation of this seawater barrier.

## **CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Construction Division.

Respectfully submitted,



GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:JTS:lg

c: c: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)  
County Counsel  
Executive Office  
Internal Services Department (Countywide  
Contract Compliance)